

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action that was mailed on January 12, 2005. Claim 1 is amended based upon disclosure including: that in lines 23-28 on page 3 of the specification; that in the paragraph bridging pages 7-8 of the specification; and that in lines 27-31 on page 10 of the specification. New claims 5 and 17 are based upon such disclosure as that in the paragraph bridging pages 3-4 and in lines 5-19 on page 6 of the specification. New claims 6 and 18 are based upon such disclosure as that in the paragraph bridging pages 7-8, in lines 11-16 on page 8, and in lines 13-26 on page 10 of the specification. New claims 7 and 19 are based upon such disclosure as that in lines 6-18 on page 11 and in lines 20-27 on page 13 of the specification. New claims 8-11 reflect original claim 4. New claims 12-15 are based upon such disclosure as that in the paragraph bridging pages 16-17 of the specification. New claim 16 is based upon such disclosure as that in lines 11-22 on page 3 of the specification. No new matter is introduced by this Amendment. Claims 1-19 are pending in the application.

THE INVENTION. The present invention provides a polyether-containing hydrophilic polyorganosiloxane composition that cures well and that also has an improved stability sufficient to prevent separation out of the polyether component over time. The

polyorganosiloxane composition of the present invention cures into a product having satisfactory hydrophilic properties.

In accordance with the present invention, the polyorganosiloxane composition having these beneficial features is obtained by using a curable organopolysiloxane - that is, an organopolysiloxane that has curable or crosslinkable groups such as silicon atom-bonded alkenyl groups for hydrosilylation reaction curing or organic peroxide curing or silanol groups or silicon-atom bonded hydrolysable groups for condensation reaction curing. These curable organopolysiloxanes also contain at least 5 mol% of diphenylsiloxane units or at least 10 mol% of methylphenylsiloxane units in their base polymer. The specified organopolysiloxanes are combined with a polyether to form the presently claimed compositions.

The compositions of this invention cure readily into products that are highly hydrophilic. This hydrophilicity is confirmed by contact angles of up to 70° (especially up to 65°) when measured in accordance with JIS R3257. Even after long term storage, the polyorganosiloxane compositions of the invention resist separation out on the part of the polyether components, both in the uncured and in the cured state. The presently claimed compositions are thus effective for minimizing variations of a coating of aqueous paint applied thereon and also for minimizing variations in impressions made in specimens of the compositions.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,907,002 (Kamohara). It is respectfully submitted that this ground of rejection is not applicable to claims 1-19 presently pending in the application.

Kamohara teaches a dental impression silicone composition that includes components (A) through (G). Kamohara's component (A) is "an organopolysiloxane having at least two **aliphatic** unsaturated hydrocarbons in one molecule". Column 3, lines 17-19 (emphasis supplied). Kamohara's component (G) is a methylphenylpolysiloxane having the structural formula shown in column 3 of the patent. The question becomes whether either Kamohara's component (A) or Kamohara's component (G) corresponds to component (A) in the present compositions.

Kamohara fails to teach or suggest that his component (A) could contain "at least 5 mol% of diphenylsiloxane units or at least 10 mol% of methylphenylsiloxane units" as required for present component (A) by all of the claims herein. It goes without saying that Kamohara fails to suggest a component (A) that "contains from 10 to 30 mol% of diphenylsiloxane units or from 25 to 35 mol% of methylphenylsiloxane units in the diorganosiloxane units of which the backbone is constructed" as required by claim 16 herein. Kamohara fails to teach or suggest that his component (G) has "a silicon atom-bonded alkenyl group, a silanol group, or a

silicon atom-bonded hydrolyzable group" as required for present component (A) by all of the claims herein. Accordingly, component (G) of Kamohara does not contribute to curing or crosslinking reactions, and it is quite different from component (A) in the present invention.

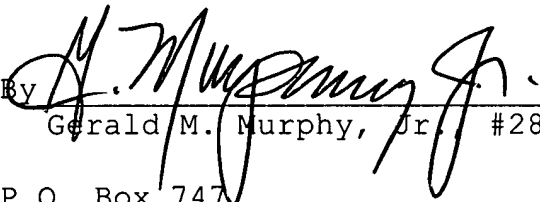
As pointed out above, neither Kamohara's component (A) nor Kamohara's component (G) corresponds to component (A) in the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by claims 1-19 herein is neither anticipated by nor obvious from the Kamohara disclosure.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Rick Gallagher (Reg. No. 28,781) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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